Launch of INSAT-2C, 2D, 2E

2047. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the schedule for launch of INSAT-2C, 2D and 2E and whether the work on these satellites is progressing as per schedule:

(b) what are the cost-projections of each of these three satellites;

(c) what would be the capacity of each of these satellites;

(d) whether launch of INSAT-2A, scheduled for April, 1993 has been delayed, if so, the reasons therefor alongwith the sanctioned cost and its capacity; and

(e) what would be the end-use of various transponders in each of these satellites?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI): (a) INSAT-2C, 2D and 2E are expected to be launched as per the following schedule:

INSAT-2C—May—July, 1995.

INSAT-2D—June—August, 1996.

INSAT-2E—September — November, 1997.

The work on the construction of these spacecraft is progressing satisfactorily.

(b) The approved project estimate for these three spacecraft is Rs. 205.25 Crores.

(c) INSAT-2C and 2D will carry 12 C-band transponders, 6 Extended C-band transponders, three Ku-band trasponders, one S-band broadcasting service transponder and one S-band mobile communications services transponder. INSAT-2E is similar to INSAT-2A and 2B and will carry 12 C-band transponders, 6 Extended C-band transponders, two S-band transponders, Very High Resolution Meteorological Instrument, Meterological Data Relay transponder and Search and Rescue Package. There may be marginal adjustments in the payload composition to meet any emerging requirements over the period of next few years.

(d) INSAT-2A launch took place as scheduled in July, 1992. INSAT-2B is scheduled for launch in July, 1993. The sanctioned cost of INSAT-2A and 2B spacecraft is Rs. 329.94 Crores and their launch cost is Rs. 198.30 Crores.

INSAT-2A and 2B are identical and each spacecraft carries 12 C-band transponders, 6 Extended C-band transponders, 2 S-band transponders, one VHRR instrument. Meteorological Data Relay transponder and Search and Rescue Package.

(e) The C-band and Extended C-band transponders are used for high density telephone traffic between major centres, medium capacity traffic between main and primary centres, remote area single channel per carrier communications, data and messaging networks, business and closed user networks, regional TV networking and Metro TV channel. The S-band transponders are used for National TV channel, Regional TV Networking, Radio Networking, Disaster Warning, Meteorological Data Dissemination, News and Facsimile Dissemination and Time and Frequency Dissemination Service. The Data Relay Transponder is used to collect meteorological data from remote sites and relay it to a central place for processing. The Very High Resolution Radio Meter is used to get cloud cover imageries in visible and infra-rod bands. The Search and Rescue Package relays to a central place any emergency alert message originating from marine and other vehicles carrying a compatible emergency beacon.

Breach of guidelines for calculating the price of gold ornaments

@2047-A SHRI ANANT RAM JASWAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item which ap-

@ Previonbly unstarred question 1621, transferred from 11th May, 1993.